

to counteract and destroy all the influence which that most thrilling address was calculated to produce. But now these ears have been so much, and been so well, that they are disposed to call them in question. Dr. Peter Sennett, of Upper Canada, gives the following case: a terrible monition to all drunkards.

It was the case of a young man about twenty-five years of age; he had been an habitual drinker for many years. I saw him about nine o'clock in the evening on which it happened. He was then, as usual, not drunk but full of liquor. About eleven o'clock he was called to see him. I found him literally reeling from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet. He was found in a blacksmith's shop just across the way from where he had been. The owner of the shop discovered an extensive light in his shop as though the whole building was in one general flame. He ran with the greatest precipitation, and on flinging open the door discovered a man standing erect in the midst of a widely extended silver-colored blaze, bearing, as he descended it, exactly the appearance of the wick of a burning candle in the midst of its own flame. He seized him by the shoulder and jerked him to the door, upon which the flame was instantly extinguished.

"There was no fire in the shop, nor was there any possibility of fire having been communicated to him from an external source. It was purely a case of spontaneous ignition. A general sloughing soon came on, and his flesh was consumed, or removed in the dressing, leaving the bones and a few of the larger blood-vessels standing. The blood, nevertheless, rallied around the heart, and maintained the vital spark until the thirtieth day, when he died, not only the most handsome, but the most beautiful picture that was ever presented to human view, but his shrieks, his cries, and his lamentations were enough to rend a heart of adamant. He complained of no pain of body—his flesh was gone. He said he was suffering the torments of hell; that he was upon his threshold, and should soon enter his dismal cavern; and in this frame of mind gave up the ghost. O, the death of a drunkard! Well may it be said to be a description. I have seen other drunkards die, but never in a manner so awful and affecting. They usually go off senseless and stupid as it regards a future state."

In all such cases, Professor Stillman remarks:

"The entire body having become saturated with alcohol absorbed into all its tissues, becomes highly inflammable, as indicated by the vapour which reeks from the breath and lungs of a drunkard; this vapour, doubtless highly alcoholic, may take fire, and then the body slowly consumes."

From the Christian Watchman.

CHILDREN IN PAGAN LANDS.

The Rev. Mr. Milcom, who it is known has for some time been in the East, visiting on the condition of the heathen, has addressed a letter to the Sabbath School in Federal street, which we have obtained permission to publish for the benefit of our juvenile readers. It rightly considered it will awaken gratitude to God our heavenly Father, in the minds of all who may read it, for the multiplied blessings of a Christian land.

Shower John Hopburn.

Bay of Bengal, Sept. 10, 1836

DEAR CHILDREN.—I have you very often in my remembrance, and always with the strongest emotions of attachment. You have a dear pastor who has his cordial regard, and do not need me to repeat on paper the lessons I used to inculcate upon you at the Sabbath school. But I hope I will never be considered indolent for me to correspond with any part of my precious congregation, and I sit down with pen and ink, and a quill pen, to write you a little letter about human children.

Human children are very childlike in their parents, and their parents are very tender to them, but their condition is most sad, in every thing which concerns their mental and moral powers and their future destiny. The daughters of poor people are not taught to read and write, and the dress of the country makes sewing almost unnecessary. They therefore go idle till they are nearly adult, which is at the age of 15 or 16, and then engaged in the light employments which are here allotted to women. Boys begin to go to school at 7 or 8, and are almost universally taught to read and write, though very imperfectly. All they learn beside is a worse than to remain ignorant. Nay, it does but mislead and supply the mind. They are taught that the universe consists of an infinite number of systems of worlds. Each system is round and flat, having a greater continent in the center, a greater island of each cardinal point, and around each island 500 small ones; each great island has a particular shape, such as a square, a semi-circle, &c., and its 500 islands have each the same shape. The inhabitants of all have faces shaped exactly like the form of their island. Our earth is the southernmost of the four great islands, and is round or a little oblong like our faces. Its diameter is 10,000 leagues—its circumference 24,000 leagues; and that which is water, twice as deep as the earth is thick, is supported on a stratum of air, twice as deep as the water, and that is supported by its own internal expansions and movements.

The great central continent has in its midst a stupendous mountain called *Mount Olympus*, of miles in diameter. The hills are inhabited by monsters of beasts—upon the middle are ranged six celestial regions, one above the other. The top occupied by six great heavens, a double in each space are four more. The top of the mountain is the summit of the universe, and upon it stand the gods, and they are going when they die. Every sensual desire is to be enjoyed. There is no

God, or any object of worship in any of these heavens.

No one can stay always in any of the heavens. He will after some ages at the fullest, see the final sign of some moisture under his arm pits, and then he falls perhaps into some of the hills, perhaps in the form of a reptile, or beast, or fowl; and must begin again to go through the almost endless changes of their misery. He may get back and fall again a thousand times; till tired of his existence, he longs for annihilation; which, after myriads of ages, if he have been very holy, he may attain.

There are eight principal hills, each surrounded by sixteen smaller ones. The tortures of these are described in the most awful manner. I have seen a building six or seven hundred feet long, with a row of paintings on its wall the whole length, portraying these sufferings. Roasting, ripping open, breaking bones, pulling off the flesh, cutting of the members, etc., are horribly portrayed.

Besides this, the boys learn little else but the life and adventures of Gaudama, and eminent saints. One book will describe what Gaudama did when he was a monkey, another what he did when a fowl, another when he was an elephant, etc., for he was every thing from a maggot up to the highest forms of existence.

Gaudama being annihilated, the Burmans have now no God, and will not have till the next Buddha comes. So that they have nothing to worship, but *pagodas* built over some of his hairs, or where he scratched when he was a fowl, or in general remembrance of him, *priests* and the *law*. They have none to forgive their sins, or give them blessings. They must rise or fall in the scale of creation by their deeds of merit, according to an unalterable fate. Their law contains all the prohibitions of our ten commandments, and a great many of our New Testament duties, but there are as few who are really religious in their way, as in America there are who are really religious in *Christ's* way.

Pray then for Burmans. They are going in crowds to eternal death. Pray for Burman children in our schools, that they may be converted. Give to the cause of missions. I can say from personal knowledge, most sincerely, it is a good cause. The money is well and prudently spent, and the fruits begin to appear. Learn habits of saving and industry. Much of the world is as badly off as Burmah. Especially turn to God yourselves. You have no excuse, no cloak for your sins! You, if lost, will find a more dreadful condemnation than will fall to the lot of heathen—May God give you an understanding heart!

Remain most affectionately yours,

HOWARD MALCOM.

GREAT EXCITEMENT IN THE SENATE CITY OF BOSTON.

From the National Intelligencer.

THE PROGRESS OF THINGS.

On Wednesday an immense meeting assembled at Boston, in Faneuil Hall, to hear the report of a committee appointed on the preceding evening, to consider the propriety of complying with the Post Office Circular.

The meeting was one of intense excitement. The Report was made by *Zeludee Cook, Jr.*, and, after reciting the circumstances under which the Post Office Circular was issued, according to the Boston Atlas of yesterday, from which we copy, "concluded with a series of resolutions, oppressive, exacting, and impracticable; that it would be resisted 'peaceably,' if it were possible, 'forcibly,' if it were necessary—at any rate, that it should be at all hazards resisted."

These resolutions were interrupted with long and loud acclamations of applause. The assembled citizens were ready for their immediate adoption.

Mr. Geo. Bond and Mr. Abbot Lawrence, although assenting to the deductions of the Report, and sharing in the indignation of the meeting, urged a delay, before resolutions so decisive were adopted.

Mr. Abbot Lawrence is reported to have spoken to this effect:

"He would not hesitate to say that his sentiments of the Administration. There is no People on the face of God's earth that is so abused, cheated, plundered, and trampled upon as are the People of the United States. This was his sincere and deliberate conviction. He would not say that he did not approve all the sentiments of the resolutions. But the time had not yet come for their adoption. It might come, it might come the next week—and citizens might then come together, prepared to adopt the resolutions that had been read, and adopt the measures necessary to sustain them."

When the fearful crisis should arrive—when the issue should eventually be made up between an oppressed People and an oppressing Government,—he should not be at a loss for the course that it would be proper for him to pursue. Meanwhile, let us proceed with great caution, prudence, and foresight. The Government are in the wrong. They exact impossibilities; and let us keep them in the wrong, and commit ourselves by no overt act, till we find that the laws of self-preservation compel us to a forcible resistance. We are about upon a tempestuous ocean—with no rudder—no compass—no pilot; and the time may come when the crew will be compelled to take possession of the ship."

After an attempt by Mr. Adams and Mr. Joselyn (friends of the Administration) to justify their measures, the following resolutions were offered by Mr. Abbot Lawrence, and adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting recommended to the Postmaster of this city the postponement of the execution of the order from the Department of the General Post Office, requiring individuals to pay

the Report and Resolutions submitted this morning be postponed until Saturday, the 27th inst., at 4 o'clock in the afternoon; and that in the mean time, they committed to a committee of twenty-four, consisting of the committee who reported them and fifteen other gentlemen.

The following gentlemen were then added to the committee already appointed: William Prescott, Charles Jackson, Samuel Hubbard, Wm. Sullivan, Geo. Bond, Geo. Daracott, Geo. Hallett, Patrick, T. Jackson, Charles P. Courtis, Abbot Lawrence, James Read, Simon Wilkinson.

The meeting was then adjourned to meet at the same place on Saturday, the 27th inst., at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.—The report of the committee will then be submitted.

Congress of Nations.—We have read with great satisfaction and an almost entire acquiescence in its doctrines and propositions, a "Dissertation on the subject of a Congress of Nations for the adjustment of Internal Disputes without recourse to arms," just published by Ezra Collier, 148 Nassau-st. We understand that this Dissertation was elicited by the offer of a large premium by the American Peace Society, and was one of those which the committee—Messrs. Adams, Webster, and Kent—deemed worthy, though each of them held a different opinion as to which was the most worthy among them. Of course, no decision was made, and this essay is placed before the public on individual responsibility.

It is indeed high time the public mind was more fully aroused to the horrid atrocity, the awfulness of international warfare, and the inconceivable aggregate of crime, misery, and torture, inseparable from its existence. True, no pen can adequately portray the universe of evil and agony which war inevitably engenders, but this is no reason for suffering their continuance in sluggish apathy or unmanly despair. It is the duty of the philanthropist, the patriot, and the Christian, to strive nobly against all existing sources of crime and wretchedness, no matter how faint the prospect of immediate success—to strive prudently indeed, but earnestly, and with a full confidence in the ultimate triumph of righteousness and truth. But we cannot even believe the project of a Congress of Nations, for the settlement of controversies and the general preservation of peace, a visionary or unpracticable one. If those nations only whose more obvious interest must ensure their favorable regard, would at once lend their countenance and their active co-operation to the measure, it might be carried into effect in five years. Let the United States, for instance, in good faith propose a Congress of authorized Delegates from all civilized and peacefully disposed nations, and self-preservation would at once ensure the concurrence of Sweden, Denmark, Portugal, Holland, Belgium, Saxony, Naples, the South American States, and even the Ottoman Empire, with all the independent nations of Germany and Italy. Each of these has every thing to dread and nothing to hope from the existence and issue of war.—England is confessedly unequal to the burden which another formidable war must impose on her overstrained resources. France is naturally warlike, but her monarch is the reverse, and dare not from his tottering throne provoke a renewal of hostilities.—Austria and Prussia have suffered so dreadfully within the present generation, and have so little to expect even from the successful issue of another great struggle, that they cannot be averse to living peace, based on the existing order of things; while the establishment in good faith of the proposed Congress would relieve every nation in Europe of nearly one-half the intolerable burden of national expenditure which exhausts the integrity of governments as well as the ability of the people. Russia alone appears to cherish dreams of further aggrandizement at the expense of her neighbors; but even she, if not compelled to cloak her ambition under a semblance of cordiality, would find a serious impediment to her designs in the existence of such a general council of the friends of justice and peace. We insist therefore, that the plan is not merely founded in righteousness, and necessarily polite, but that it is eminently feasible, and may be immediately carried into execution.

The essay before us like judicious in its suggestions and forcible in its arguments. Its pictures of the horrors of war approach as near the reality as language will admit of.—N. Yorker.

Some particulars of the loss of the Steamer Ben Sherrod.

The Natchez papers contain further particulars of the deplorable loss of the *BEN SHERROD*. At the time she took fire, she was engaged in a race with the steamer *Prairie*; and the fire took from the great heat of the boilers, caused by raising her steam to its extreme power,—a barrel of whiskey was placed on deck for the use of the hands during the race, who drank to excess and became intoxicated.

At about 12 o'clock at night the furnace so heated that it communicated fire to the wood, there was on board sixty cords.—When the crew discovered the fire they all left their posts and ran for the yawl without giving any alarm to the passengers, who were asleep in their berths. The captain for a time attempted to rally the extreme confusion by stating that the fire was extinguished; twice he forbade the lowering of the yawl which was attempted by the deck hands and passengers. The shrieks of nearly three hundred persons on board now rose wild and dreadful. The cry was *to the shore! to the shore!* and the boat made for the star-board shore, but did not gain it as the wharves might have given way, or the pilot been driven by the flames from his station. The steam was not left off and the boat kept on. The scene of horror now beggared all description.

The yawl which had been filed with the crew had sunk, drowning some who were in it, and the passengers had no time to dress. There were ten ladies on board, who all

scream, some drowning instantly and others clinging to planks—two of the number were finally saved. Some of the passengers are supposed to have burnt up on board the *Ben Sherrod*—one man by the name of Ray, from Louisville, Ky., hung to a rope at the bow of the boat until taken up by the yawl of the steamerboat *Columbus* which arrived about half an hour after the commencement of the disaster, on her downward passage. Mr. Ray's face and arms were much burnt while clinging to the boat in the above position—he lost \$20,000 in Natchez and United States paper.

The Steamerboat *Alton* arrived half an hour after the *Columbus*, but from the carelessness or indiscretion of those on board, was the means of drowning many persons who were floating in the water. She drove into the midst of the exhausted, sufferers, who were too weak longer to make exertion, and by the commotion occasioned by her wheels, drowned a large number. A gentleman by the name of Hamilton, from Limestone county, Alabama, was floating on a barrel and sustaining also a lady, when the *Alton* drove up and washed them both under—the lady was drowned, but Mr. Hamilton came up and floated down the river fifteen miles, when he was taken up by the steamer *Statesman*.

Mr. McDowell attributes the drowning of his wife to the indiscretion of the managers of the *Alton*, as she was floating safely on a plank at that time. Mr. McDowell sustained himself some time against the current, so that he only floated two miles down the river, when he swam ashore ten miles above Port Adams.

Mr. Rundell, floated down the river ten miles and was taken up by a flat boat at the mouth of Buffalo creek. He saved his money in his pantaloons pocket, but lost one thousand dollars worth of freight. Mr. McDowell lost his wife, son, a lady, Miss Francis Few who was under his protection and a negro servant.

FROM THE BOSTON COURIER OF MAY 18.

REVOLUTION POSTPONED.—Yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, our sober city seemed to be on the point of a revolution. The excitement produced by the measures adopted by the Government, in regard to the Custom-house and Post Office, was tremendous and fearful. One spirit of resistance and war seemed to pervade the city, and nothing was spoken of but opposition to the tyrannical edicts of the Cabinet. The immediate topic of excitement was the order of the Postmaster General, directing the Postmaster of the city to receive postages in specie only.

John Kilburn, a person well known on the turf, as list seller, &c., was in a town in Bedfordshire, and as a turf phrase is, "quite broken down." It was during harvest, and the week before Richmond races, (Yorkshire), while he was traveling and near which place he was born; to arrive at the races he had to pass through a bad road. He applies to an acquaintance of his, a blacksmith, to stamp on a padlock the words "Richmond goal," with which, and a chain fixed to one of his legs, he composedly went into a cornfield to sleep. As he expected, he was soon apprehended and taken before a magistrate, who, after some deliberation, ordered two constables to guard him to Richmond; no time was to be lost, for Kilburn said he had not been tried, and hoped they would not let him lay till another assize. The constables, on their arrival at the goal, accosted the gaoler with "Sir, do you know this man?"

"Yes, very well; it is Kilburn; I have known him for many years." "We suppose he has broken out of your goal, as he has a chain and padlock on with your mark; is he not a prisoner?" "I never heard any harm of him in my life." "Nor," says Kilburn, "have these gentlemen, sir; they have been so kind as to bring me out of Bedfordshire, and I will not put them to further inconvenience. I have got the key of the padlock, and I will not trouble them to unlock it; I am obliged to them for their kind behavior." He travelled this way about 170 miles.

Filling up of Lake Superior.—This mighty lake is the largest body of fresh water in the known world; its length is four hundred and eighty miles, and its breadth is one hundred and sixty-one; its circumference about one thousand one hundred miles, and its depth nine hundred fathoms. Its waters are remarkable for their unrivaled transparency. About one thousand streams empty themselves into this lake, sweeping in sand, primitive boulder-stones, and drift timber, which sometimes accumulates so as to form islands in the estuaries. A slight formation, indeed, is said to be now in progress.—Within a mile from the shore the water is about seventy fathoms; within eight miles, one hundred and thirty fathoms. From the above causes, the lake is gradually filling up.

Lake Erie, from similar causes, is also filling up. This sheet of water is two hundred and seventy miles in length, sixty in breadth, and two hundred fathoms in depth. It is gradually becoming shallower. Long Point, for example, has, in three years, gained no less than three miles on the water. On its southern shore, serious encroachments have been made in many places. For considerable distance above the mouth of Black river, the bank of the lake is low, and without rock. Thirteen years ago, the bank was generally sloping, with a wide beach; now the waves beat against a perpendicular bank, which, from continual abrasion, often falls off.—From one to three rods in width are worn away annually.

RIDGE ISLAND.—The Providence Journal says that Mr. Sprague, one of the members of the last Congress, declines a re-election, on account of his private affairs. He, however, expresses his dissatisfaction at the policy pursued by the Administration, which he has heretofore supported; he is too deeply interested in the welfare of the country, to sustain the experiments any longer.—Boston Courier.

From the New Orleans Bulletin.

The following interesting narrative of the events which occurred after the capture of the American schooner now detained in Matamoros, will be perused with considerable interest by our readers. It is from the pen of a gentleman of undoubted veracity, who was on the spot at the time the events narrated occurred. We will conclude the communication in our next number.

To the Editor of the Commercial Bulletin:

As the accounts you have heretofore received of the late proceedings at Matamoros have been unconnected, and in some respects inaccurate, I take the liberty of sending you the following narrative, which is taken mostly from actual observation:

The taking of the American schooners *Champion* and *Louisiana*, and the liberation of the latter by the United States Sloop of War *Natchez*, which happened to arrive off the Brasses de Santiago, on the 9th of April, are circumstances already well known. The *Champion* was within the harbor of the Brasses, and the *Louisiana* alongside the Mexican brig of war *Urrea* at the time of this occurrence; and Capt. Mervine of the *Natchez*, after releasing the *Louisiana*, demanded the liberation of the other prize, with her passengers and cargo, contraband of war only excepted. He at the same time notified the Captain of the *Urrea*, that the brig must remain under the guns of the ship till the affair could be settled, and that she would be fired into if she offered to move. The Capt. of the port, of whom the demand was first made, referred it to the Commodore-in-Chief, Gen. Bravo, at Matamoros; and Capt. Mervine wrote to his Excellency, repeating the same, and threatening to take the *Urrea* if it should be refused.

It is proper here to state the grounds which each side now took in the controversy. The American Consul, before the last mentioned demand was sent, inquired of Gen. Bravo under what declaration of blockade the two American schooners were taken. He received in reply, a certified copy of a decree issued by the Mexican Government in Feb. 1836, declaring the coast of Texas shut to foreign and coasting trade. This decree, of which Capt. Mervine received a translation, before he wrote to the General, was deemed insufficient to justify the captures. It was not, properly speaking, a declaration of blockade, but a law pertaining to the Custom House Departments—and thought it might have justified the captures before the independence of Texas was acknowledged by our Government, it must be considered null and void with respect to American vessels since that event. The ports which were shut by the Mexican Cabinet, when it still had nominal control of them, have since been opened by a new power which has long had actual possession, and which is recognized by us as an existing government. Mexico can now only close them to our trade by a formal blockade, duly published and sustained by a competent force. Such blockade, in order to be legal, must be both sustained and published six months before any vessel can be captured for her first attempt at entering the interdicted port, though any munitions of war on board of her may then be seized, and the vessel herself may be taken on a second attempt, after being warned, or on a first attempt after the due term of publication has expired.

The decree above mentioned was no declaration of blockade, not only because it had not the form of such a document, but because no force was sent to enforce it till about a year after its publication. As no real declaration of blockade was then known, and as the vessels were not warned off, Capt. Mervine very justly looked upon their capture as piratical, and in his opinion he was sustained by the American Consul at Matamoros. Mexican outrages have so long been overlooked, that it is cheering to see our officers manifesting a spirit which our government has been slow in evincing; both these gentlemen deserve the thanks of their countrymen, the former for the prompt and energetic manner in which he has acted, and the latter for the high tone with which, at a season of dangerous excitement, he answered the threatening communications of Gen. Bravo.

The demand of Capt. Mervine not being conceded, he took possession of the *Urrea* on the 17th about 2 o'clock. Her Captain, on being ordered to strike her flag, requested that a gun should be first fired not at *Urrea* as harm, but as a signal. A harmless shot was accordingly discharged across his bow, his flag was lowered, and was replaced by the American ensign. The two vessels were then lying in front of the *Bravo* just without the range of cannon shot. The above proceeding caused excessive ire among the officers in the port, though I did not observe any great degree of excitement either among the soldiery or the populace. The Mexican schooner *Bravo*, commanded by that noisy personage, Capt. Thompson, was then anchored at the bar. Soon after the *Urrea* struck, he fired at the *Natchez*, and his example was followed by the four gun battery at the entrance of the harbour. At this time the boats of the *Natchez* were pulling towards the North beach to land the *Urrea's* crew, and Thompson, though as he confessed he was well aware that the Mexican Sailors were in the boats, directed several of his shot against them, and prepared to oppose their landing from the beach. The boats were recalled to the ship, on which Thompson made what he called a pursuit, that is, he followed them a short distance in his launch, firing musketry when cannoneading would scarcely have reached them. About twenty cannon shot were fired; none of them, from the distance, could have been expected to strike the ship; and as she neither answered them nor changed her position till the cannonade was over, the attack on her had rather a farcical appearance. The only damage done was to the American lumber schooner *Clinax*, which was then anchored just without the bar, received one of the shots fired at the boats.

On the same day, the Mexican brig of war, *Gen. Tera*, appeared off the Rio Grande, about 20 miles south of the *Bravo*, with the American schooner, *Julius Cesar*, which had been captured on the same ground as the other.

The state of the wind did not then permit the *Natchez* to bear down upon her, and she that evening ran her prize into the river. On the next morning she stood for the *Bravo*, and as the *Natchez* was some distance out, she succeeded in entering the harbour, after grounding once on the south bank, and afterwards on the bar.

The excitement in Matamoros on the *Urrea's* capture being announced, was very great; but at the *Bravo* it was more manifest among the officers and the higher class of citizens, than the rabble. The American vessels in port were immediately embargoed; and some of the leading military, it is said, urged the seizure of all American property, and the imprisonment of all our citizens in the place. Had the *Urrea* been there in command, some outrages would probably have been committed; but *Bravo*, though being the only vessel in command, on both sides, has been doing what he has deemed on both

to his flag, would countenance no ruffianly proceeding.

The U. S. Sloop of War, *Brazo*, appeared off the *Bravo*, on or about the 9th inst. Her commander, Capt. Engle, having spoken the *Natchez* and learned what had occurred, he repeated the demand which Capt. Mervine had made of the Commodore-in-Chief, adding that it were not complied with, he would attack the vessels of the Mexican squadron, so soon as they should leave the forts by which they were protected, a notice which he said, he felt himself, in duty bound to give, for the accommodation of Commodore Lopez.

This candid and soldierly message was not answered, but the *Brazo* received despatches from the American Consul, and returned to Pensacola. Commodore Dallas immediately gave orders for preparing the whole squadron for sea. It consists of the Frigate *Constellation*, four Sloops of War, and the Schooner *Grampus*; and was to sail on the 24th inst. for the Mexican coast, to enforce the demands already made.

The situation of the passengers and crews of the two American schooners, with respect to their treatment, is precisely as it has been represented; but the idea prevailing here, that they have been tried and sentenced to death for piracy, is incorrect. The case of the *Champion* and her people, was submitted to the District Judge of Matamoros, Don Rafael Delgado, one of a well known class of Mexican functionaries, whose element is corruption, and whose sustenance is bribery. He condemned the vessel and cargo to confiscation, pronounced her people to be actionable for piracy, and passed them over to the military authorities to be tried. I have no idea that the court martial will find them guilty, nor that the miscreant Delgado would dare, however he might wish to sentence them, if the final decision depended on him. His object in forming such a charge was probably insult; and it is to be hoped that his government will be compelled to chastise him in a manner which will leave a lasting lesson for all Mexican Judges.

MOBILE, MAY 25.—Later intelligence from Texas and Mexico has been received by several arrivals at New Orleans.

The new President, Bustamante, has commenced his administration amid great public rejoicings, but his seat is a very uneasy one. A revolution in favor of the Constitution of 1824, broke out about a month ago, in San Luis Potosi, and troops have been ordered there to suppress it. The insurgents are about 800 in number, and have armed themselves with cannon, &c., and provided themselves with money by robbing the *conducta* bound to Tampico with specie. The ruling party seem to think that *Santa Anna* is at the bottom of these insurrectionary movements, and Bustamante is said to be anxious to bring *Santa Anna* to trial.

The land expedition against Texas is, so all appearances, virtually abandoned. The Texian army is at Navidad, amounting to about 3000 men, but not very orderly, for we observe an account of a pretty extensive mutiny which broke out about the 12th inst. Some soldiers who had refused to do duty, were put in irons—upon which about 500 of their comrades armed themselves, and surrounding the quarters of the officers, demanded the release of the prisoners, and on being refused, released them by force. Gen. Johnson drew out a large force, and displaying it so as to take the line of mutineers with loaded cannon, obliged them to ground arms, and secured the ringleaders. The rest returned to their duty.

The Texans intend, as soon as they collect supplies, to resume the offensive by land.

There has been received at New Orleans within three or four days past, from Mexico, the sum of \$204,498 in coin, besides bars of uncoined silver.

[Translation from the *Littérature Française.*]

Important Chemical Discovery.

—We are, in France, on the eve of a new kind of revolution, which will, without doubt, make the tour of the world. Chemists have just discovered a process by which they can remove writing from any paper without leaving the slightest mark which might lead to the suspicion of fraud. No ink can resist the power of this composition, and no kind of paper can retain the character it bears. That the government might be satisfied of the dangerous nature of this discovery, a chemist went to the prefecture of police, and requested a passport for a stranger, which was granted immediately. The next day the same chemist went to the house of the prefecture himself, and showed him a passport in blank, signed with his own hand. "It was only yesterday," said he, "that this passport was given me at your office; and if this is the way, the police conducts, no wonder that Don Carlos could traverse from one end of France to the other in order to reach Spain!" The prefect, astonished, sent for all the agents of his office. All denied that they ever delivered this unfortunate passport; but they finally agreed that it was certainly the signature of the prefect which it bore, the particular kind of paper which was used in the office of police, and the royal stamp with which it was impressed.

It had already become a subject of legal inquiry, of deposition from office, &c. when the chemist appealed the anger of the prefect and the fears of his agents, by explaining the means which he had used to remove the writing. One of the first bankers of the capital maintained that the act of washing alone, by the means of which a written paper should be returned to its virgin witness would leave some marks by which it could be detected. The same chemist, who was in epistolary correspondence with this banker, took a letter which he had formerly received from him, removed the writings by this composition except the signature wrote above it an acceptance for a hundred francs, payable to the bearer.—This acceptance was presented to the cashier, who paid it immediately, and the banker was convinced that he himself should have taken it. The public treasury has suffered by this discovery. In fact, the sale of stamped paper is not near so large as before, for any one may restore, by means of this wash, leaving the stamp, &c. old papers which are no longer of any use. Several chemists are now occupied in preparing an ink which shall be truly indelible; others in making a paper which shall be proof against this terrible discovery.